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Forest Chief Clamps Limits On Mineral King Camping Use

PORTERVILLE—Jim James, supervisor of the Sequoia National Forest, has given notice that strict control of camping and vehicle use in the Mineral King Valley will be enforced beginning Saturday.

"The valley is drawing more recreation enthusiasts than the existing camping facilities can accommodate," James said, noting that uncontrolled recreation use outside existing accommodations has caused pollution and damage to vegetation.

"The lack of vehicle barriers, shortage of developed campsites and parking areas, and lack of sanitary facilities make it necessary to protect the public safety and environment of the area. Camping will be permitted only at sites designated for overnight use and will be limited to one family per unit.

"The road in the valley will be closed at the pack station and parking sites have been delineated. Cold Springs and Sunny Point Campgrounds are designated for family camping, and are limited to seven days' maximum stay. There is also a seven day limit for use of parking lots. House trailers will not be permitted in the valley. Picnic sites are designated for day-use only and overnight camping in these sites will not be allowed. Camping and picnicking in this area is on a first-come-first-served basis.

"A sign at the junction of the Mineral King road and State Highway 198 will indicate if camping units are available or full. Additional signs will be placed at the campgrounds and parking sites to inform the public of the restrictions relative to camping and vehicle use within the area."

Growers Seek Aid In Student Threat

COACHELLA VALLEY (UPI) — The Desert Grape Growers League has called on President Nixon, Gov. Ronald Reagan and other government leaders for protection from students who announced Friday they would come to the valley June 6 to halt the harvest.

Harry Carian, president of the League, wired the President advising him of the student's statement which he considers "an open threat to the entire community."

and "brown berets" arriving in the valley June 6 to halt all picking, packing and shipping of table grapes.

He said Mecha is an organization of Chicano students throughout the state and the southwest. Urive said also that Mecha had experience lately in demonstrations on university and college campuses and had procedures for stopping grapes in the valley. He declined to indicate what those procedures might be, but